# SAYS FRANCE WAS FORCED INTO WAR his Government refused to interfere between Austria and Servia. On the eve-

French Diplomatist Relates

Events Leading Up to

European Conflict.

Government ended diplomatic relations with Servia by recalling their Minister from Belgrade, although Servia had agreed in writing to nearly all the terms of the ultimatum, deferring a definite answer only to those conditions which, as above mentioned, affected her sover-

BY MONCURE ROBINSON. CAP MARTIN, Alpes Maritimes, Feb. 12.-As one watches the progress of turning, from time to time, to a conturning, from time to time, to a conmideration of the causes which led to it,
and to a review of the conditions of the
countries now taking part in it, during
the past few years. I have been so
fortunate as to meet here a French
diplomatist whose name is well known

The concentraced troops on both here eastern
and western frontiers. Notwithstanding
the untiring efforts of the British and
French Cabinets to maintain the peace
of Europe, and notwithstanding also the
personal intervention of the King of
England and the Emperor of Russia,
who both appealed directly to the German Kaiser, the latter, still firmly belevine that French would remain beman Kaiser, the latter, still firmly believing that England would remain neuEurope, a man whose long stay at the
capital of Autria-Hungary and whose
acquaintance with the heads of that
Government have given him an intimate
knowledge of affairs in the dual
monarchy, and I have gleaned from his
most interesting conversations a few most interesting conversations a few many. facts which I will try to relate as much facts which I will try to relate as much as possible in the manner in which he had raided the frontier at three different points and had invaded Luxembourg (August 2), delared war on France (August 2), delared war on France (August 2), delared war on France (August 2).

the wreaths and other memorials party.

Status of the state of the stat peace to develop her great colonial em-pire in Asia and Africa, built up by the untiring efforts of her diplomacy, under the Government of the Third

Republic.
To the nation at large this war came
like a "bolt from the blue," and only a very few far sighted people had seen war clouds gathering. These signs of war were shown not only in Germany war were shown not only in Germany in the past few years but perhaps even more clearly to the careful student of diplomacy in the course followed by Austria-Hungary. It was in 1906 that a great change came over the foreign policy of the dual monarchy, owing to the appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Baron (afterward Count) Acrenthal. For ten years his predecessor, Count Goluchowski, had followed a policy of "understanding" with Russia, as exemplified by an agreement between the two Powers in 1897, and by the famous "programme" of Mursteg in 1903.

Change of Policy.

Austria-Hungary at that time was justly considered a conservative element in Europe; but whene Baron Aerenthal appeared on the scene, just fresh from St. Petersburg, where he had been Ambassador for several years, he was impressed with the idea that owing to Russia's financial and military difficulties after her war with Japan an opportunity had arisen for Austria to take a leading part in the affairs of the Balleading part in the affairs of the Balkans. What Count Aerenthal did not realize was that Austria's internal dissensions (viz., the constant fights between the various nationalities constituting the empire), and above all her financial and economical conditions. ting the empire), and above all her financial and economical conditions, would not allow her to follow such a bold and ambitious policy. After the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina have been patting themselves upon the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1968 Austria had to appeal to her ally differmany to help her overcome the resistance of Russia. Then Germany, having extricated her from these difficulties, exacted from her a great increase in her naval and military power, so that she (Austria) should contribute adequately to the strength of their alliance. This learns from New Scotland New Medical Strength of the strength of their alliance. This learns from New Scotland New Medical Strength of the strength of their alliance. This to the strength of their alliance. This entailed heavy expenses which Austria Yard headquarters that although it has

of Count Aehrenthal and a faithful follower of his policy.

On the other hand, the successes of Servia in the Baikan wars of 1915-1913 made her a centre of attraction for the millions of Slavs in the Austrian empire, and it was felt that something should be done to humillate Servia. If not to crush her altogether. In view of the probable opposition of Russia this had to be done before the Russians could complete their military organization and also before Austria should be compelled by the state of her finances to reduce her efficiency on land and sea. All these conditions made Austria a ready tool in the hands of Germany when the latter Power thought the time had come to strike a deadly blow at France and Russia, believing, as she did, that England, under a Liberal Government and with threatened uprisings in Ireland, would not be a party to this conflict.

The story of the crisis has been told in the various many colored diplomatic "Books," published since the outbreak.

The story of the crisis has been told in the various many colored diplomatic "Books" published since the outbreak of hostilities; but it is difficult for the ordinary reader to disentagle from the numerous communications, which crossed one another from one chancelry of Europe to another, a clear summary of the succession of events. Such a summary, however, my kind to the fight. Such a summary, however, my kind friend the French diplomatist has sportsman's battalion, now quartered briefly given me in our conversations, and the following resume of salient of pigeon plucking has been going on facts will be I have a few parts of pigeon plucking has been going on facts will be, I hope, of some ser-vice to your thoughtful readers.

The Awaited Opportunity.

"The letters recently published by M. Giolitti, the Italian Premier, and by M. Take-lonesco, the Rumanian statesman, have clearly established the fact that have clearly established the fact data Austria-Hungary contemplated an attack on Servia in 1913, and that the scheme was abandoned only because of the disapproval with which the sugscheme was abandoned only because of the disapproval with which the suggestion was met bothe in Rome and at Bucharest. A better opportunity, therefore, had to be awaited, and this opportunity came when the Archduke Francis Ferdinand and the Duchess of Hohensberg were mardered at Sarasevo on June 28, 1914. Although Servia at once disclaimed all responsibility for this dastardly act and offered to furnish proofs that would satisfy Austria-Hungary. The decide press of Vignna, taking its lone as usual from tria-Hungary, the docite press of Vienna, taking its ione as usual from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, laid blame at the door of the Servian lovernment and loudly clamored for its

"Public opinion in the Dual Monarchy was thus prepared for the ultimatum which was presented by the Austrian Musica at Belgrade on July 23, allow-ing only forty-eight hours for its acceptance. Servia at once appealed to Russia for protection, but the following day, while the Russian Government MANHATTAN. was vainly seeking to obtain from Aus tria an extension of the time limit, the German Ambassador in Paris, Baron Choen, informed the French Cabinet that

Choen, informed the French Cabinet that his Government approved the terms of the uitimatum and that the conflict could only be localized by the omission of say outside interference between Austria and Servia. This suggestion was equivalent to leaving Servia at the mercy of her powerful neighbor, the terms of whose ultimatum amounted to nothing less than an attempt to destroy Servia's sovereign rights.

"On the same day the British Government, fully alive to the danger threatening the peace of Europe, suggested a mediation by the Powers not directly concerned in the controversy, Germany,

sador in London, Prince Lichnowsky, replied the very next day, July 25, that his Government refused to interfere bening of the same day, when the time himit expired, the Austro-Hungarian Government ended diplomatic relations

eign rights.
"At this juncture Russia, to fulfil her BECALLS PEACE EFFORTS obligations to Servia, declared that if Austrian troops crossed the Servian frontier she would be compelled to mobilize at once.

Peace Efforts Fail,

"From that moment events proceeded 12.—As one watches the progress of this terrible war one cannot help re-turning, from time to time, to a concentrated troops on both her eastern

"Germany, however, after her troops

For forty-four years Frenchmen have silently kept up their mourning for the loss of Alsace-Lorraine. In France the special of the result has hald in the following day King Albert appealed for associate of the result has hald in the second to the result of the result has hald in the second to the result of the result has hald in the second to the result of the result has been second to the result of the result has been second to the result of the result of the result in the result of the loss of Alsace-Lorraine. In France the spirit of the people has held in its heart since 1871 this grievous loss, the sense of which strangers passing through gay established by the treaty of London of Paris would hardly realize were it not 1839, to which Prussia had also been a for the wreaths and other memorials party. Both Powers signified their willplaced on certain anniversaries about the ingness to comply with this request, and statue of Strasbourg on the Place de the same day the British Ambassador. the same day the British Ambassador, Sir Edward Goschen, demanded of the German Minister for Foreign Affairs, Herr von Jagow, a formal and imme-diate promise that Belgium's neutrality should be respected, stating at the same time that unless this request were com-piled with by midnight of the same day he had been instructed to ask for his pussports. The answer of Herr von Jagow was that the German troops were already marching through Beigium on their way to France and that the plan of

attack could not be modified.
"Prior to taking his dparture from
Berlin Sir Edward Goschen then asked
to see the Imperial Chancellor. Every one will recall the dramatic scene which followed, when Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg exclaimed that he never would have believed England would go to war with Germany for a mere word 'neu-trality' and for that 'scrap of paper' (the treaty of London)."

It will ever be to England's credit that she stood by France and Russia not only to fight for that "word" and to uphold that "scrap of naper," but also to maintain those principles of justice which Germany had trodden underfoot.

# LONDON 'CROOKS' FLOCK TO THE BALTIC FRONT

could not well afford, so that her finan-cial condition gradually became more and more embarrassed under the minand more emburrassed under the ministry of Count Berchtold, the successor been so light, this does not mean that of Count Achrenthal and a faithful followed burglar, the cracksman, the area

DEBUT OF YOUNG MINISTERS.

father.

JOSEPH P. McHUGH & SON Start the Spring Season Selling Exclusively Furniture MANHATTAN.

(a) McHUGHWILLOW, Since 1893, New York Standard of Style,

Housewives Keep Welf From Door Despite High Prices.

Special Correspondence to THE SUN. Paris, Feb. 16.-The long proclaimed

France, England and Italy. In answer to this suggestion the German Ambasfering and it is not likely that it will living: suffer. It requires just a little more care in buying, a little more skill in providing satisfactory dishes, and in both
of these she has no superior.

The following takle shows prices toBacon
Butter
Butter

ing the test of higher prices with the case and skill expected of her. Allowing though incomes have been diminished. though incomes have been diminished, yet in the aggregate it spells a vastly Some commodities have not yet risen. All this has come wince the sudden pinch will be actually felt.

remains the same.

in price. Among them is bread. The inflation in prices at the outbreak of the Paris baker has stopped baking fancy war. Then, with the Germans almost in bread, but he still seils the family loaf sight, housewives began to store up for at the same price as before the war. a siege under the advice of those who Flour costs the same. Fresh vegetables remember 1876-71. Prices went soarcan be had in plenty at practically the ing, but the change in the fortunes of old price. Milk is no dearer and dried war and Government interposition vegetables show a tendency to go down ended that and the housewife accepts in price. The price of tea and coffee the slight increase without a murmur. Her skill gives her a margin before the

GERMAN AVIATORS RESCUED British Craft Saves Two Who Clust to Wreckage Two Days.

LONDON, Feb. 27.-A British trawies landed two German aviators at Lowestof to-day. The airmen met with an accident while attempting to fly from Ostend to flat English coast and clung to the wreekage of their machine in the Strait of Dover for two days before they were rescued. They were turned over to the naval as thorities.

# B. Altman & Co.

Importations from the leading fashion centers of Europe are being constantly received and the displays in the Store's various departments represent everything that is now in and the displays in the Store's various departments represent everything that is new and Especially noteworthy, however, are the large and beautiful assortments of Spring and Summer merchandise made in America.

The Department for Women's Woven Underwear

are shown in anticipation of the Spring and Summer seasons, among them being dainty Undergarments made of a silk web-mesh that is entirely new; Dancing Bloomers of sheer silk; Combination Garments for wearing under or over the corset: and Envelope Chemises, Knicker Skirts and Corset Covers in a diversity of materials, both imported and American.

Many attractive novelties

A Novelty in Raincoats for Women is shown in a mannish Slicker made of a new material closely resembling leather, but specially treated so as to be absolutely proof against rain or sea-water. This garment is especially desirable for steamer, yacht, motor or general travel wear.

Women's Outergarments Department (Third Floor)

New Importations of Fine French Lingerie novel

originated in the ateliers of B. Altman & Co.

on the finest materials.

just received from Paris and now displayed, present and interesting features, including new styles in shaping and exquisite hand-embroideries worked

Additional shipments of dainty Hand-embroidered Lingerie imported direct from the Philippine Islands are also being shown in the same Department.

The New Hats for Spring are now assembled in the Department on the Third Floor in a collection which represents everything that is really novel and in good taste. It includes, in addition to the latest creations of many of the leading Parisian modistes, a diversity of smart styles

In the Veiling Department, on the First Floor, a novelty Veil, "THE POINCIANA," is now being shown.

#### SPECIAL SALES FOR TO-MORROW (MONDAY)

# 8,000 Pairs of Women's Imported Glace Gloves

(short length) in black, white or tan,

will provide an offering of unusual interest at

85c. per pair

A Sale of Misses' Dresses FOR AFTERNOON AND EVENING

will afford an excellent opportunity for purchasing fashionable frocks at most interesting prices.

Street Dresses of navy blue serge or checked . . . . at \$15.50 Evening Frocks of chiffon-finished taffeta at . . . . . . . \$21.50

Luncheon Dresses of satin brilliante, at 25.00

Department for Imported and Special Costumes

(Third Floor)

SPECIAL FOR THIS WEEK

Women's Tailor-made Suits in the new mannish effects, made of the finest quality English covert cloth, checked materials, homespuns or whipcords,

Made to order . . . at \$68.00 As an additional feature B. Altman & Co.

The New Hussar Suit (registered) for Women and Misses

which will also be made to order at \$68.00

will introduce

An especially interesting Silk Offering will consist of

Colored and Black Dress Silks

Several Thousand Yards of

arranged in Dress, Blouse and Skirt Lengths and marked at unusually attractive prices. Included will be imported Metal Brocades

Fleur de soie and Crepe Imprime: Imported Novelty Silks in rich effects: Crepe Chinois. Fine Dress Satins, Silk Pongees and Plaincolored Evening Silks; Black Chiffon Taffetas and Black Waterproof Silks. Also White Crepe de Chine and White Washable Habutai.

## 16,000 Yards of Silk-and-cotton Crepe Cord

at 18c. per yard

will present, at an exceptionally low price. an attractive light-weight dress fabric (suitable for warm-weather dresses) in a large assortment of light and dark colors, including the new shades for the Spring and Summer seasons. This material will also be offered in black.

### A Spring Sale of Woolen Dress Fabrics

at very special prices, will comprise

Fine Tailor Serge, 52 inches wide, in black, white and navy blue . per yard \$1.10 Black-and-white Shepherd's Check, 48 inches

wide; in checks of various dimensions, 

### An Important Sale of Women's American-made Underwear

will present, at special prices, a large assortment of dainty Undergarments, all excellently made and featuring the wanted styles and materials.

MUSLIN UNDERGARMENTS

Nightrobes, 75c., 95c., \$1.45, 1.85 to 3.75 Chemises . . . 78c., 95c. & 1.15

Envelope Chemises . . 95c. & 1.45 48c., 68c., 85c., 1.15 to 1.65

Corset Covers, 55c., 75c., 1.25, 1.60 & 2.90

Combination Garments

. \$1.00, 1.45, 1.85, 2.10 & 2.90 Petticoats, 95c., 1.50, 1.85, 2.90 & 3.90

SILK UNDERGARMENTS

Nightrobes . . \$2.85, 4.25 & 6.25 Envelope Chemises . . 1.90 & 4.75 Knicker Drawers 1.85 & 2.75 Underbodices . . 90c., 1.85 & 2.75

# The Outfitting of Children and Young Girls

(from 6 to 16 years of age) is given close attention.

Carefully selected and diversified assortments of Spring apparel are now in stock at moderate prices.

Lingerie Dresses . . . \$3.25 to 32.00 Dance and Party Dresses . 14.50 to 28.00 White & Colored Linen Dresses 4.25 to 35.00 Colored Washable Dresses . 1.35 to 14.50 Reefers and Coats . . 5.50 to 38.00

All Charged or Paid Purchases (including heavy and bulky shipments) will be forwarded Free of Charge by mail, express or freight to any point in the United States. The methods of shipment are optional with B. Altman & Co. and no discounts are allowed.

Telephone 7000 Murray Hill.

Fifth Avenue-Madison Avenue, New York Thirty-fourth Street

Chirty-fifth Street